

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A plug-in safety coupling for pressure pipes, comprising:
a coupler box pivotally mounted therein, the coupler box having a first oblong hole;
a blocking member having a diametrical through bore in which a plug can be inserted in a depressurized state at an acute to a right angle with respect to the conducting position and brought into the conducting position by pivoting the plug;
a cap-like locking sleeve having a hemispherical front end that is placed over the coupler box with the blocking member;
the hemispherical front end having a ~~spherically extending~~ second oblong hole which extends spherically from the center of the hemispherical front end along a great circle on the hemispherical front end; and
the cap-like locking sleeve being rotatably mounted on the coupler box and actuated by a spring so that the ~~locking sleeve's~~ second oblong hole extends at an angle with respect to a pivoting plane of the blocking member and the plug, and being rotatable against the force of the spring into the pivoting plane of the blocking member and the plug.
2. (Currently Amended) A plug-in safety coupling for pressure pipes according to claim 1, wherein the cap-like locking sleeve is mounted for rotation by 90° on the coupler box and is actuated by the spring such that ~~its~~ the second oblong hole extends at an angle of 90° with respect to the pivoting plane of the blocking member and the plug and is rotatable against the force of the spring into the pivoting plane of the blocking member and the plug.
3. (Currently Amended) A plug-in safety coupling for pressure pipes according to claim 1, wherein the coupler box has a relief bore which ~~leads from the outside into the interior of the receiving bore for the blocking member~~ connects the through bore to the outside the pressure pipe.

4. (Currently Amended) A plug-in safety coupling for pressure pipes according to claim 1, wherein a stop is formed inside the locking sleeve and at the opposite outer side of the coupler ~~housing~~ box, so that rotation of the spring loaded locking sleeve abuts a stop when ~~its~~ the second oblong hole comes to lie on the front side of the blocking member in the coupler ~~housing~~ box.

5. (Currently Amended) A plug-in safety coupling for pressure pipes according to claim 10, wherein the plug has a projection with a chamfered shoulder which slides under the second oblong hole in the coupler box when the plug is inserted in the bore and rotated.

6. (Previously Presented) A plug-in safety coupling for pressure pipes according to claim 1, wherein the locking sleeve is made of sheet steel or sheet aluminum by pressing.

7. (Previously Presented) A plug-in safety coupling for pressure pipes according to claim 1, wherein the locking sleeve is made of aluminum by die casting.

8. (Previously Presented) A plug-in safety coupling for pressure pipes according to claim 1, wherein the locking sleeve is made of plastics by injection moulding.

9. (Previously Presented) A plug-in safety coupling for pressure pipes according to claim 1, wherein the locking sleeve is made of brass.

10. (Currently Amended) A plug-in safety coupling for pressure pipes according to claim 1, wherein the ~~coupler box includes an~~ first oblong hole ~~which~~ defines the pivoting plane of the blocking member and the plug.

11. (New) A plug-in safety coupling for pressure pipes according to claim 1, wherein, when the locking member is rotated into the pivoting plane of the blocking member and the plug, the first and second oblong holes are in register with one another.

12. (New) A plug-in safety coupling for pressure pipes according to claim 11, wherein, when the spring rotates the locking member away from the pivoting plane of the blocking member and the plug, the first and second oblong holes are not in register with one another.

13. (New) A plug-in safety coupling for pressure pipes according to claim 1, wherein the coupler box includes a housing that defines the first oblong hole.